

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR (Georgian SSR) REPORT [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Port Installations and Naval Vessels Observed at Poti DATE DISTR. 22 March 1957 (S)

NO. PAGES 1

REQUIREMENT NO. [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

PLACE & DATE ACQ. [REDACTED]

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

A two-page report, with an attached sketch, describing the port installations and naval vessels observed in the port of Poti

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10 MAY 1957

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC							
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)																	

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P O T I.

SECRET

The Harbour Entrance.

1. Two buoys have been placed in the [] entrance at points A and B (see sketch). Nets have been strung between these buoys and the adjacent breakwaters. []

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[] In addition a buoyed net has been attached to buoy B which can be used to close the entrance A - B. This net is normally secured in the open position to point C on the northern breakwater.

The Naval Basin.

2. An unspecified number of destroyers and 'other Naval units' were secured stern to the wall in the area D. [] the destroyers [] varied between 1,000 and 1,500 tons. 25X1

3. About 9 Minesweepers were moored in the Naval Repair Yard. The only recognisable features were:-

(i) The large winches astern.

(ii) The gun each carried forward.

4. The sheet piling which forms the new moles E and F is being filled with concrete.

5. The entrance G to the Naval Basin is [] wide. 25X1 Destroyers were seen passing stern first through this entrance.

The Inner Harbour.

(a) The North Harbour.

6. The entrance H to the North Harbour is being dredged.

7. There were approximately 7 cranes along the quay I and their load capacities were estimated to vary from 5 to 15 tons each. They were of the type that normally handle coal and were seen to unload a 4,000 ton Russian [] in under 12 hours. [] 25X1

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8. The area J is thought to be that of the [redacted] Administration.

Buildings include a control tower [redacted]

[redacted]

9. Many warehouses and Nissen type huts were seen in the area K. There were also a number of cranes but they were too obscured for any details to be established.

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10. A silo with an estimated capacity of 20,000 tons is located at point L. The adjacent quay can only accommodate two ships at a time.

11. The portion of the southern mole marked M is reserved for fishing boats and small craft.

(c) The Inner Basin.

12. The entrance to the Inner Basin (N) is [redacted] wide.

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13. The floating dock (estimated handling capacity 5,500 tons) moored at point O was empty.

14. Mineral ore was stacked along the quay P. 10 cranes with lifting capacities varying from 15 - 20 tons were unloading ore from a 7,000 cargo ship moored alongside.

15. An unspecified number of warehouses [redacted]

[redacted] were ranged along quay Q. The goods stored inside could not be seen, but a varied selection of metal goods and cast iron ware was stacked between the warehouses and the Basin. The quay was served by six cranes each capable of handling loads of between 10 and 15 tons.

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GENERAL.

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16. Cargo ships are very rarely permitted to moor alongside each other in POTI [redacted] and usually have to wait in the roadstead outside until a berth is vacated.

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